FTA / FMEA Safety Analysis Model for Lithium-ion Batteries

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Outline

- Scope
- Safety Strategy: Objective, Approach, Challenges
- FTA (Fault Tree Analysis) Safety Model
- FMEA (Failure Modes and Effects Analysis) Safety Model
- ➢ **INTEGRATED FTA / FMEA SAFETY MODEL**
- Conclusions
- Next Steps

The <u>robustness</u> of system <u>reliability</u> review and root cause <u>analysis</u> relies on the use of a <u>systematic approach</u> and appropriate <u>methods</u> and <u>tools</u>, particularly important when the focus is on <u>safety</u>.

Scope

- Initial – COTS 18650: Single, lithium ion, cylindrical cells, secondary (rechargeable), nominal 3.4 - 4.0 V, 1200 - 2800 mAh, $LiCoO_2$ Lithium Cobalt Oxide and Lithium Ion Polymer (for ITE / CE), $LiMn_2O_4$ Lithium Manganese Oxide (for power tools)

- Future – Initial scope to be adapted / expanded as needed to cover other chemistries, designs, sizes, packs, modules, applications, etc.)

Safety Strategy

Identified / Prioritized Research and Findings

Applied Safety Science /
Engineering Techniques

Appropriate, Proactive, Focused, Consistent
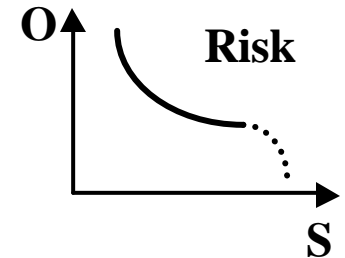**Safety Requirements and
Test Methodologies**

Controlled Safety Attributes for All
Scenarios, Conditions, Lifecycle Stages

Demonstrated Safety Improvements

Systematic Objective / Approach

- Define, Analyze, Validate, Control, Document
  - Safety, Risk, Harm, Hazard

- Risk Management – iterative / continual
  - Analyze, Estimate, Evaluate, Reduce, Control

- Systems Engineering
  - Subsystems, Components, Envir. – interfaces / interactions
  - Lifecycle: Design, Production, Assembly, Storage, Transport, Installation, Use, Service, Disposal, etc.

- Disciplined Analysis: harm, hazard, fault / failure
  - Means of Harm – root causes, conditions, events, mechanisms
  - Means of Protection – focused on specific means of harm
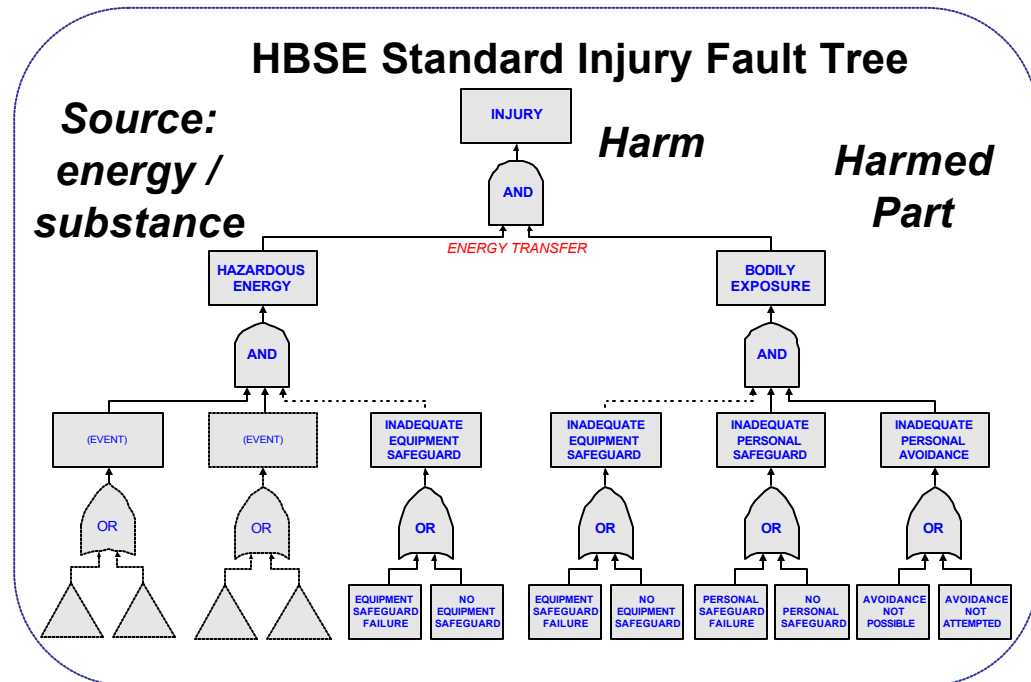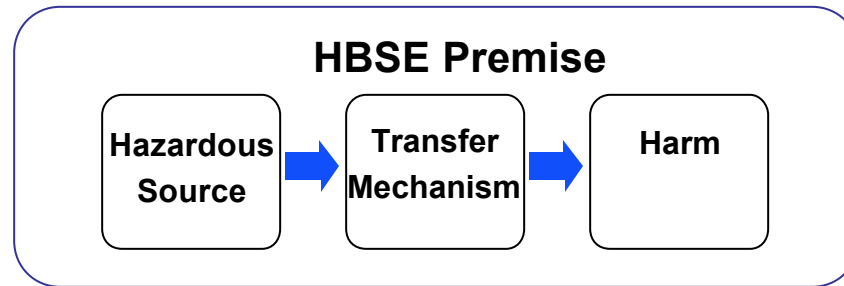
Hazard-Based Safety Engineering

E.g., LIB chemical potential energy converted to hazardous electrochemical and thermal energy, and sufficient amount transferred (rate, duration, concentration) to ignite combustible materials

Challenges

- Integration: Techniques, Tools, Team
- Analysis → Developed Requirements:
  - Scope Management (creep, dive)
  - R&R Test Methodologies (conditions, criteria)

    Reproducible & Repeatable (consistent)

    Representative & Robust (worst-case)
  - Safety-Critical Features / Attributes:
    - Suitably identified, validated, controlled
    - Retained in all conditions, entire lifecycle
    - Effective, durable, reliable

FTA Safety Model - Overview

Based on standard format / guidelines e.g., Fault Tree Handbook US NRC, NASA, etc.

Example Fault Tree (overall view):

LIB FTA Safety Model:
Limited Example Critical Path

vigorous burning, explosive decomposition, etc.

LIB Fire / Explosion

AND

sustained combustion / exothermic chemical reaction

Heat for Combustion

present and/or generated

Oxidizing Agent

Transfer In (diff page)

Fuel in Combustible St...

AND

thermal runaway: sufficient heat / transfer for ignition temperature

Heat for Ignition

Transfer In (diff page)

e.g., present and/or generated

Sustained Heat

OR

generated

Radiant Heat Feedback

Undeveloped

e.g., not 1st item ignited

Other Heat Present

External (House) Event (given)

Top Event (System Fault)

⬇

Minimum, concurrent, necessary & sufficient conditions

⬇

From general to incrementally more specific categories

⬇

Primary Events (Root Cause)

Need descriptions, assumptions, limitations, etc. – but let's focus on path now…

See
"FAULT TREE Gates and Events: Symbols Used"
(last pages) for legend and description

See
Lithium Ion Battery Hazard Analysis
Project Notes (separate document)
for problem, purpose and scope

Top Event Fault - Fire / explosion hazard:
Hazardous thermal energy or material transfer
that may lead to harm outside battery cell,
resulting in injuries to persons,
and/or damage to property or operations.

May be characterized by vigorous burning or explosive decomposition
But may also include any flame, spark, heat or heated particles
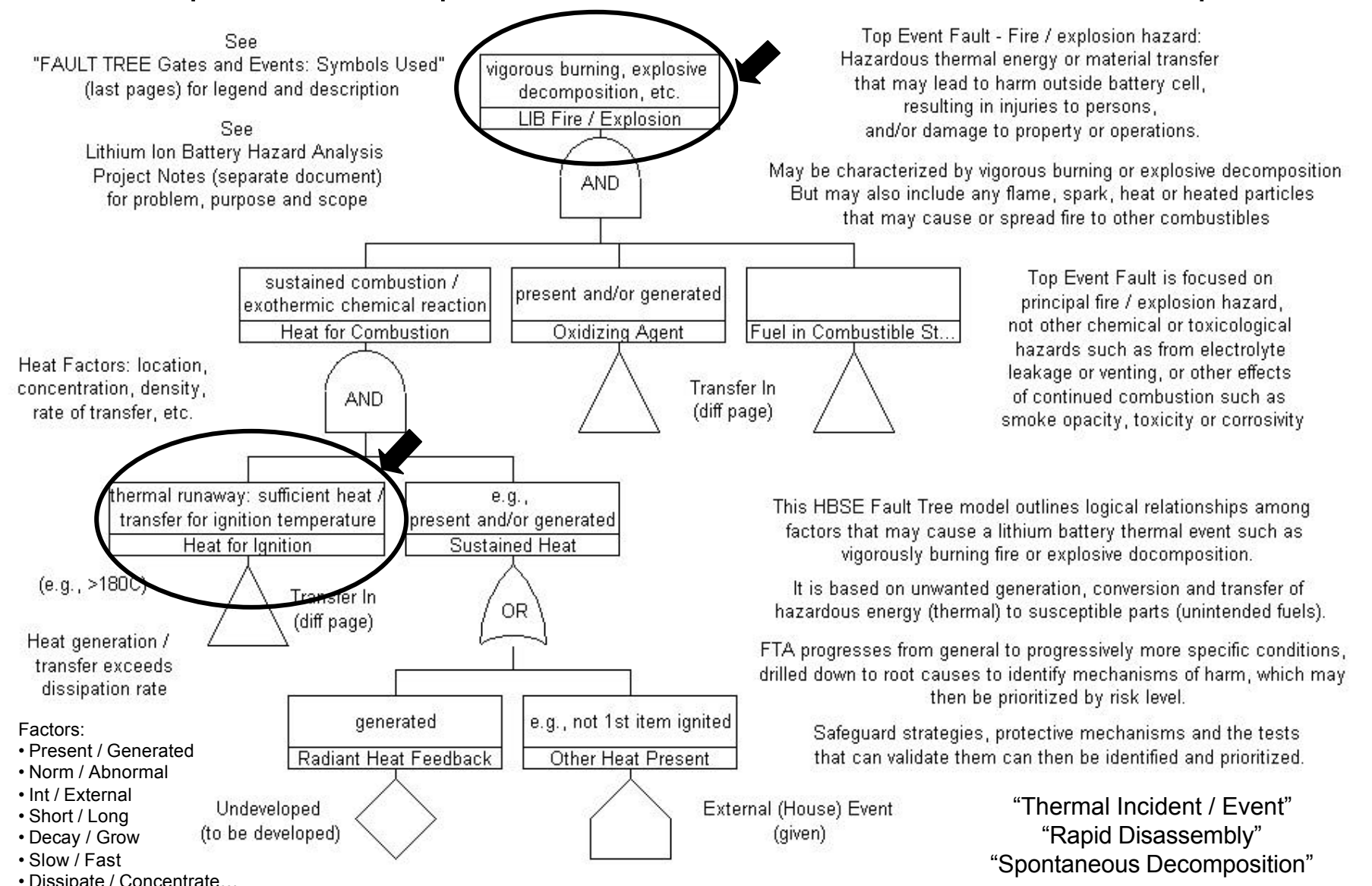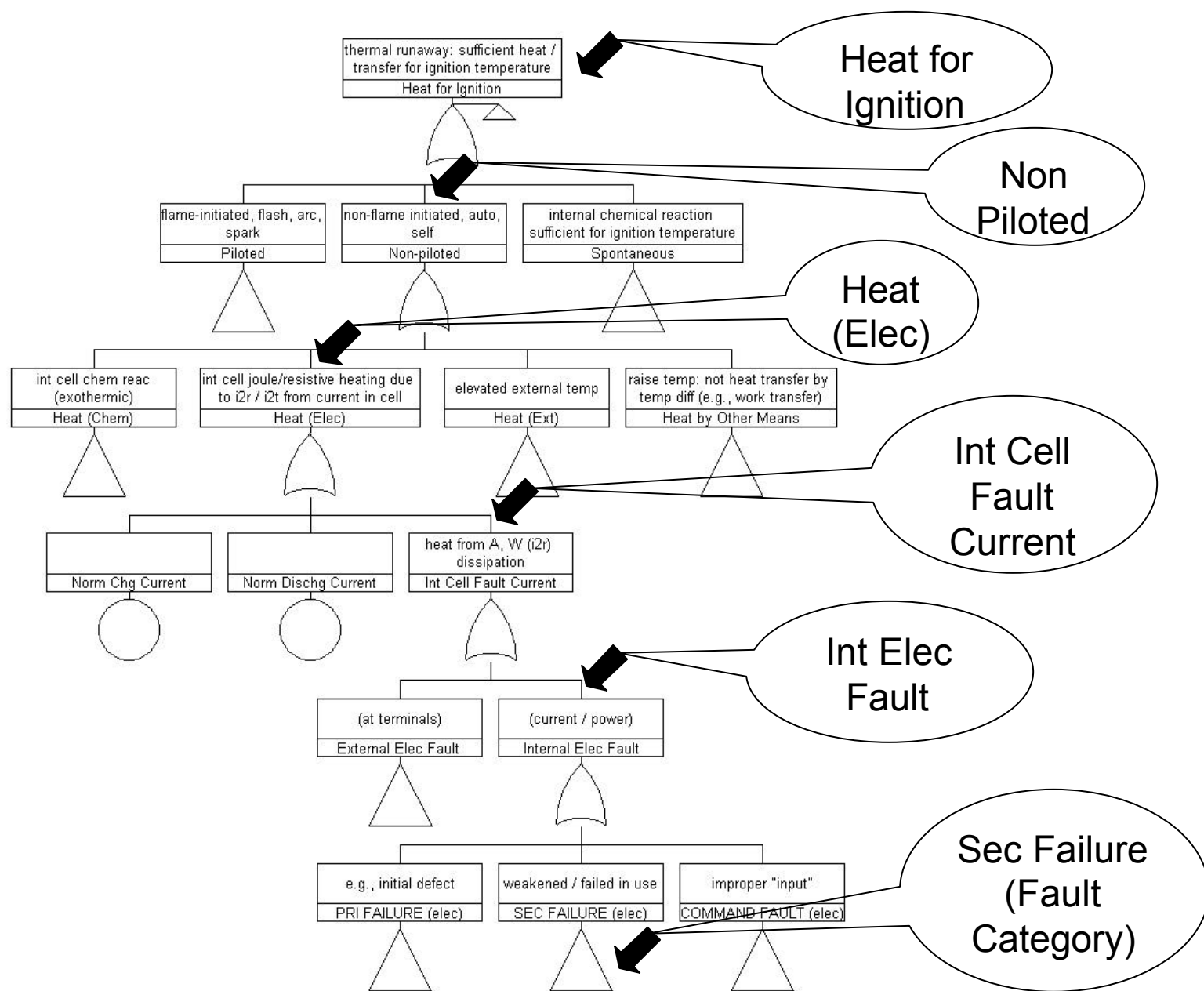that may cause or spread fire to other combustibles

Top Event Fault is focused on
principal fire / explosion hazard,
not other chemical or toxicological
hazards such as from electrolyte
leakage or venting, or other effects
of continued combustion such as
smoke opacity, toxicity or corrosivity

Heat Factors: location,
concentration, density,
rate of transfer, etc.

(e.g., >180C)

Heat generation /
transfer exceeds
dissipation rate

This HBSE Fault Tree model outlines logical relationships among
factors that may cause a lithium battery thermal event such as
vigorously burning fire or explosive docomposition.

It is based on unwanted generation, conversion and transfer of
hazardous energy (thermal) to susceptible parts (unintended fuels).

FTA progresses from general to progressively more specific conditions,
drilled down to root causes to identify mechanisms of harm, which may
then be prioritized by risk level.

Safeguard strategies, protective mechanisms and the tests
that can validate them can then be identified and prioritized.

Factors:
• Present / Generated
• Norm / Abnormal
• Int / External
• Short / Long
• Decay / Grow
• Slow / Fast
• Dissipate / Concentrate…

"Thermal Incident / Event"
"Rapid Disassembly"
"Spontaneous Decomposition"

the standard in safety

*(And one fault can cause, precipitate or cascade
into one or more other faults)*

Sec S/C: Anode Film – Al Foil

Separator Defect

Penetration Failure

1. Int Causes

2. Ext Causes

sec
[-] to [+]
S/C Anode film to Al foil

sec
Separator defect

defect
Other part

(around)
Bridging Fail (sec)

(thru)
Penetration Fail (sec)

material, size, etc.
Part Defect (sec)

assembly, orientation, particle, burr, etc.
Mfg Proc Defect (sec)

Internal Cause(s)

External Cause(s)

material, size, etc.
Part Def-thru (sec)

assembly, orientation, particle, burr, etc.
Mfg Proc Def-thru (sec)

1

2

Internal Causes

Mfg / Process Defect

Metal Particle

Burr

Other

1

Internal Cause(s)

Int Overcurr | Int Overtemp | Int Overpres | Other Int Causes | leading to subsequent failures in use — Mfg/Process Defect

Defects / Failures | Weaknesses | Other Conditions | Loose Metal Particle | Burr / Sharp Edge | Other Defect

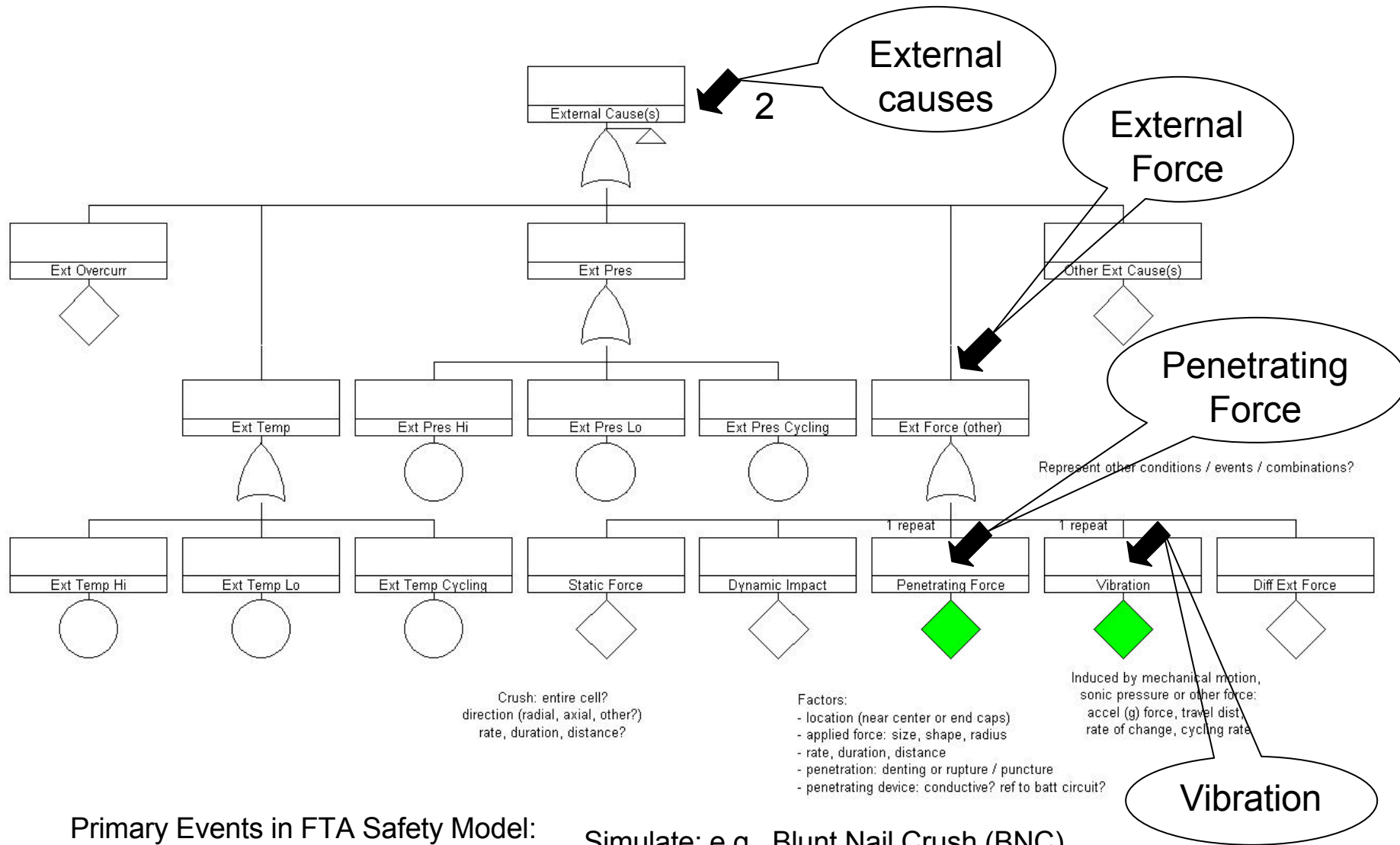Factors: location of fault, causing failure from a to b, or from a to b and c, etc.

Primary Events in FTA Safety Model:
analyzed as potential failure modes
in FMEA Safety Model

Simulate: e.g., external force
See upcoming presentation: Blunt Nail Crush (BNC)
Internal Short Circuit Lithium-ion Cell Test Method

Primary Events in FTA Safety Model:
Analyzed as potential failure modes
in FMEA Safety Model

Simulate: e.g., Blunt Nail Crush (BNC)

FMEA Safety Model - Overview

Based on standard
format / guidelines,
e.g., SAE J1739, etc.
(adapted for application)

Example FMEA (overall view):

FMEA Format & Contents

Failure Modes

Effects

Mode		Item/ Function				Potential Effect(s) of Failure			Initiation	Duration
Charge		Item	Function	Component/ Assembly	Potential failure Mode	Local Effect	Final Effect		Immediate	Short-term
Discharge									Near-term	Intermittent
Float									Long-term	Long-term
Standby										
…										

• • •

Causes

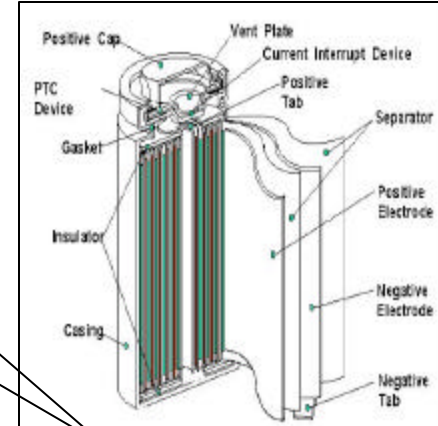| S E V	Potential Cause(s)/ Mechanism(s) of Failure	Detail Cause(s)/ Mechanism(s) of Failure	O c c u r	Current Design Controls	P r e v	D e t e c t	R P N

• • •   • • •

Actions

			Action Results				
Recommended Action(s)	Responsibility & Target Completion Date	Actions Taken	S e v	O c c u r	D e t e c t	R P N	
							Comments

• • •

Action Results

FMEA Safety Model: Separator Example

Fail Mode

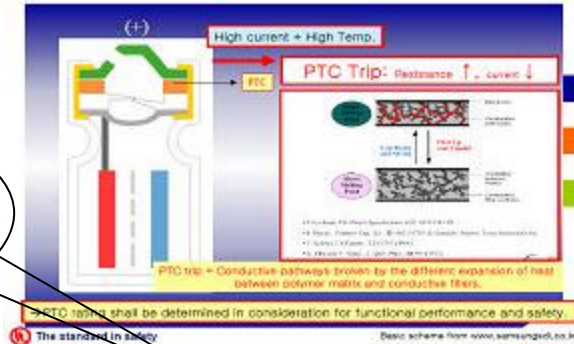Effect (Comp)

Cause

Action / Test

Function

Syst Effect

Item / Process	Function	Activating Quantity	Component Failure Mode	Effect(s) on Component	Potential Cause / Mechanism of Failure	P	S	Detection	Local Effect	System Effect - Final Condition	Test Method	P	S	R.
18650 Cell														
Separator	Anode to Cathode barrier	Heat	Low Impedance (Permeable)	Overcurrent										
	Anode to Cathode barrier		High Impedance (Impermeable)	Inoperative cell										
	Anode to Cathode barrier				Viscoelastic changes									
	Anode to Cathode barrier				Modulus changes									
	Anode to Cathode barrier	Overcurrent			Charge Stress									
	Anode to Cathode barrier				Discharge Stress									
	Anode to Cathode barrier	Mechanical Force	Loss of mechanical integrity	Puncture	Metal particle contaminant				Anode to Cathode Short	Leak, Smoke, Flames, Rapid Disassembly (design dependent)	Blunt Nail Crush (BNC)			
	Anode to Cathode barrier				Shear Stress									
	Anode to Cathode barrier													

Validate functionality: simulate via external force, e.g., <u>Blunt Nail Crush (BNC)</u>

See upcoming presentation "Blunt Nail Crush (BNC) Internal Short Circuit Lithium-ion Cell Test Method"

FMEA Safety Model: PTC Example

Function → Fail Mode → Effect → Cause → Syst Effect → Action / Test

Item / Process	Function	Activating Quantity	Component Failure Mode	Effect(s) on Component	Potential Cause / Mechanism of Failure	P	S	Detection	Local Effect	System Effect - Final Condition	Test Method	P	S	R.
18650 Cell														
PTC Device		External heat from exothermic rxns within cell OR internal I^2Rt heat	Low Impedance	Overcurrent	Material fatigue			CID will actuate above TLV as pressure rises as a function of temperature	Thermal Runaway	Leak, Smoke, Gas Venting, Flames, Rapid Disassembly	Blunt Nail Crush (BNC)			
			High Impedance	Inoperative cell	Material fatigue						Blunt Nail Crush (BNC)			
			Impedance Drift	Overcurrent	Material fatigue				Overcurrent		UL 1434			
			Manufacturing Deviation	Overcurrent	Material out of spec				Overcurrent		Blunt Nail Crush (BNC)			
			Fragmented	Short circuit	Mechanical deformation				Short Circuit		Blunt Nail Crush (BNC)			
					Impact						Blunt Nail Crush (BNC)			
					Vibration						Blunt Nail Crush (BNC)			
			Thermal Runaway effect of PTC											
			Thermal Cycling		Charging									

Validate functionality: Simulate: e.g., Blunt Nail Crush (BNC)

E.g., PTC relied on as external short circuit protection, but in functioning, heat dissipated should not spread and result in other failures that may lead to hazards and harm (internal shorts) (Safeguards should not introduce or increase other hazards)

FTA / FMEA Characteristics

FTA	FMEA
Deductive / Top-down	Inductive / Bottom-up
Graphical / Diagrammatic	Tabular
Parallel	Serial
General $\rightarrow$ Specific	Specific $\rightarrow$ General
IN: System Fault (General)	IN: Failure Modes (Specific)
OUT: Root Causes (Specific)	OUT: System Effects (General)
PROCESS: Contributing, precipitating, cascading conditions / events / relationships. Preventive / mitigating protection means	PROCESS: Items, functions, operating modes / conditions, causes, protective means and effects

Integrated FTA / FMEA Safety Model

- Systematic, Structured, Disciplined
- Qualitative / Quantitative / Comparative
- Guided / Documented Analytical Process: IN → OUT
- Complementary / Supplementary / Synergistic

- Safety, not performance or other functional aspects
- Model – necessarily broader than specific analysis
- Purpose / Intent – One size fits many

FMEA Integration with FTA

FMEA (IN):
Failure Modes

FTA (OUT):
Primary Events / Root Causes
(e.g., separator failure, PTC defect)

	Item/ Function			Potential Effect(s) of Failure		Initiation	Duration
Item	**Function**	Component/ Assembly	Potential failure Mode	Local Effect	Final Effect	Immediate Near-term Long-term	Short-term Intermittent Long-term

Mode
Charge
Discharge
Float
Standby
…

FMEA (OUT):
Effects

S E V	Potential Cause(s)/ Mechanism(s) of Failure	Detail Cause(s)/ Mechanism(s) of Failure	O c c u r	Current Design Controls	P r e v	D e t e c t	R P N

FTA (IN):
Top Event
(LIB fire / explosion)

		Action Results					
Recommended Action(s)	Responsibility & Target Completion Date	Actions Taken	S e v	O c c u r	D e t e c t	R P N	
							Comments

FTA Integration with FMEA

FTA (IN):
Top Event Fault

FMEA (OUT):
Effects (LIB fire / explosion)

FTA (OUT):
Root Causes

FMEA (IN):
Failure Modes
e.g., separator failure, PTC defect

Conclusions

- Safety Analyses: systematic & robust
- Integrated FTA / FMEA Safety Models:
  – Methodically analyze and reduce risk
  – Complementary: more effective predictive modeling
  – Scaleable: simple to complex
  – Identify / prioritize specific means of protection
  – Prevent occurrence and/or mitigate severity

Mutual Benefits:
- Demonstrate Safety Improvements
- Tie Together Conducted Research
- Identify / Prioritize Future Research

Next Steps

- Techniques, tools, team integration
  - Further develop: breadth/depth, internal/external
- Scope of analysis and requirements
  - Refine, adapt, expand as needed
- Test Methodologies – (pre)conditions, methods, measurements, criteria
  - Further develop / refine

Thank You

Comments / Questions?